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Smokejumper Obituary: Thorsrud, Edgar Lauritz (Missoula 1942)

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Recommended Citation

National Smokejumper Association, "Smokejumper Obituary: Thorsrud, Edgar Lauritz (Missoula 1942)" (2007). *Smokejumper Obituaries*. 1063.
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Smokejumper Obituary

Thorsrud, Edgar Lauritz (Missoula 1942)

A NSA Life Member, Ed, 84, died March 27, 2007, at Finley Point, Montana. He was born in Watford City, North Dakota, on August 5, 1922. Ed moved to Missoula in 1927 with his family from South Dakota and attended Missoula County High School where he competed in alpine and Nordic skiing.

After his rookie year, he joined the Army Air Corps and flew troops and cargo from the England to the Continent.

Following the war, Ed flew for the Johnson Flying Service delivering cargo, smokejumpers and firefighters to fires throughout the west. In the mid '50s, he invested in his own retardant aircraft and worked for many years in that business. Eventually Ed moved to Finley Point full time, settling into one of the many homes he and son, Lloyd, built in their years working together.

(end of excerpt)